



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

August 25, 2021

**OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**

Mr. Dan Vergano  
Buzzfeed News  
1630 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Mr. Vergano:

The Freedom of Information Act request you filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on September 3, 2017, seeking communications “regarding the 9/3/2017 news release entitled ‘EPA Response To The AP’s Misleading Story’”, was designated EPA-2017-011114. The EPA has located responsive records and released them in response to a separate FOIA request. The records can be found at the following hyperlink:

<https://foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/submissionDetails?trackingNumber=EPA-HQ-2017-011134&type=request>

Upon review of the records, the EPA determined that portions are exempt from mandatory disclosure under Exemption 6, which protects unwarranted invasions of personal privacy, and Exemption 5, which protects pre-decisional and deliberative discussion that would harm agency decision-making if released or protects confidential communications between an attorney and client. The records are released to you with the corresponding redactions.

This letter concludes our response to your request. You may appeal this final response with an email to [hq.foia@epa.gov](mailto:hq.foia@epa.gov), through [FOIAonline.gov](https://foiaonline.gov), or by writing to:

EPA National FOIA Office  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2310A)  
Room 7309 Clinton North Building  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Your written appeal must be received no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter and should include the request number previously referenced. The EPA will not consider appeals received after the 90-calendar-day limit. Appeals received after 5 p.m. Eastern time will be considered as having been received the next business day. For the quickest possible handling, the subject line of your email or the appeal letter and its envelope should be marked “Freedom of Information Act Appeal.”

Additionally, you may seek dispute-resolution services by contacting the EPA’s FOIA public liaison at [hq.foia@epa.gov](mailto:hq.foia@epa.gov) or (202) 566-1667 or from the Office of Government Information Services. You may contact OGIS with an email to [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); by calling (202) 741-5770 or (877) 684-6448; with a fax to (202) 741-5769; or by mail to Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8610 Adelphi Road, Room 2510, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001.

If you have any questions about this response, Justin Romano would be pleased to assist you and can be reached at (202) 564-1439 or [romano.justin@epa.gov](mailto:romano.justin@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric E. Wachter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Eric E. Wachter  
Director